THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (d) The WTO Council for Trade-Related Aspects for Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) held a Special Session on 20th June, 2001 to discuss the issue of affordable access to medicines in the context of the WTO Agreement on TRIPS. In the Special Session, India along with 46 other developing countries has submitted a joint paper on "TRIPS and Public Health" demanding that the WTO should ensure that the TRIPS Agreement does not undermine the right of the WTO Members to formulate their own public health policies and adopt measures for providing affordable access to medicines. Greater flexibility and clarity has been sought in the interpretation of the TRIPS Agreement so as to enable the developing countries to take care of their main public health concern of providing affordable to access to essential medicines and life saving drugs to their people.

In the Special Session, it was decided that the issue of the "TRIPS Agreement and access to medicines" would be further discussed in the next meeting of the WTO Council for TRIPS scheduled to be held in September, 2001.

Levy of anti-dumping duty on select products

3856. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any analysis has been undertaken to ascertain the magnitude of injury caused to different domestic industries in the wake of increasing dumping of goods in our country;

(b) if so, the extent of injury evaluated in terms of sales, output, profit, market share and other economic indication of the domestic industry under review for ascertaining such injury; and

(c) the remedial measures taken such as levy of anti-dumping duty in such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Anti-dumping duties are imposed as a corrective measure in accordance with our National Law as enshrined in Sections 9A, 9B and 9C of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 as amended in 1995 which are in consonance with WTO provisions to provide level playing field to the domestic industry when faced with unfair trade practices. It is not feasible to assess and quantify the extent of injury caused and protection provided to the domestic industry. However, details of sales, market share etc. are given in the

findings of each case, which are published in the official Gazette. Anti-dumping duties have been recommended in 89 cases involving various products including Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Pharmaceuticals, Steel and Other metals and Consumer Goods since 1992 to provide relief to the domestic industry to the extent possible, given the existing set of rules and regulations.

SEZs in Karnataka

3857. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have requested Karnataka to formulate guidelines for setting up of Special Economic Zones;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Karnataka Government in this regard;

(c) whether Karnataka has come out with its own export-import policy; and

(d) whether Government will take steps to include the guidelines proposed to be given by Karnataka for the Special Economic Zones in the State's export-import policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY : (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Karnataka is in the process of finalising a detailed project report.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Norms for Quality in Exports

3858. SHRI R. S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have announced strict norms for exports to maintain international quality standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the consignments returned due to poor quality during the last one year;